THOMAS'S

Massachusetts Spy

Or, AMERICAN ORACLE of LIBERTY.

Unanimity at Home, and *Bravery* and *Perseverance* in the *Field*, will SECURE the INDEPENDENCE of AMERICA.

VOL. X. WORCESTER, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1780. No. 472.

Irish News.

DUBLIN, February 10.

TO-Morrow the House of Commons of Ireland resume their deliberations. The eyes of this kingdom and of Great-Britain, nay of all Europe are now upon them, highly interested on the sequel of proceedings began with such decided spirit of liberty and patriotism, as to become the theme of modern politics, and must in future times form one of the most conspicuous pages in history, if the patriotic flame in our senate be not like that of the meteor, whose instant brightness dazzles, yet whose beams for want of duration has neither warmth nor vigour. The monster of usurped dominion has been stunned by the first blow, succeeding strokes must put an eternal period to its existence.

The attempt made yesterday by Administration in the House of Commons, was of such a nature, that while it reflected in the grossest manner, on the understanding of that august assembly, exhibited a scene of the shallowest politics, that ever disgraced the councils of this or any other country. Our Irish financier, with all that specious shew of collected gravity, which characterises him, rose, to acquaint the House of the necessity there was to open the Committee of supply, to give operations to the *Trade laws*, by originating and reviving money bills. Was there a member in the House who heard him, is there a man in the kingdom, who shall hear it, so stupid, as not to see through the slimsy schemes, under pretence of commercial regulations, the great object of government, the money-bills were to be passed, and then adieu to the scheme of national retrenchment, the Irish Declaratory act, the Bill of Rights, the repeal of Poyning's law, &c. &c. A prorogation cuts off the session. "So much for Buckingham."

The merchants and traders in Belfast have, in their very excellent letter to our different members, most seasonably taken the lead in this important business, of furnishing the Legislature with such hints and observations, as may tend to promote the national welfare, particularly respecting sugars, and equalizing the duties, &c. The several articles in the letter, will meet peculiar attention of our senators, for, unless the refining of our own sugars be properly secured, raw sugars cannot be imported to advantage, consequently a Free trade, in this respect, will be but a name. The truly useful observations, in the letter alluded to, are not local and confined, but nobly extensive, and designed for promoting the whole mercantile interest. It is hoped our merchants and traders in either parts, will, with the same accuracy and precision, lay their sentiments before our Representatives. Those in the metropolis, ought to be among the foremost in this most necessary work. The field is large, and almost every article of commerce, with the appertaining duties, bounties, and drawbacks, &c. will require a suitable investigation. To give us equal advantages with British traders, our situation, circumstances, and several disadvantages, (which will appear on a comparison) must be duly considered,—On this the most important consequences may depend.

Should the public Executioner proceed on Saturday next to burn the Act passed in the 6th of George I. declaring a right in the British Parliament to bind Ireland in all cases whatsoever, as voted by the Pimlico Parliament in their late meeting on the 5th current, which it is most sincerely hoped he will, it is thought, that a greater concourse of people never assembled at one time in College Green, than would be on that occasion, to convince the Representatives of people in Parliament, and the British Ministry, of the abhorrence and detestation in which such an assumed power in the Parliament of England is held, and that a continuation of such claim may bring on a *social*———.

LONDON, Jan. 18.

From the date of Capt. Clarke's account from Kamaskatka of the death of Capt. Cooke, and of his intention to pursue his route for the discovery of the North West passage, we must with regret conclude he has failed in the attempt, or we should have heard of him at least in the North seas long ere this, if not have congratulated him on his actual arrival.

If Capt. Clarke should have failed in his attempt to discover the North-West passage, he will be obliged to turn again to the Southward, to make the best of his way home through the Indian ocean, and in that case it will be at least these two years before we can expect his return to England.

The account of the melancholy loss of Capt. Cooke, came express through Petersburgh, from Kamaskatka.

Feb. 18. The Court Gazette has at last published a letter from Admiral Rodney, dated the 9th of Jan. containing a detail of the capture of the Spanish convoy.

It informs us, that on the 8th of January, at break of day, he discovered a fleet of 21 sail, that he immediately gave chase, and the whole was taken in a few hours. This fleet was found to be Spanish, with provisions and stores, that sailed from St. Sebastion the 1st January, under the protection of seven armed vessels belonging to the Royal Company of Curacoa, of 64 guns and 550 men, one of 28 guns and 150 men, one of 16 and 60 men, one of 10 and 40 men. Part of this fleet were laden with provisions and stores for the Spanish squadron at Cadiz; the rest with merchandize for the Royal Company. The Admiral mentions in his letter that he should order for England the vessels laden with stores, under convoy of the American and Pearl men of war; that he had manned from his own fleet the Spanish ship of war, and had called her the Prince William, out of respect to his Royal Highness, in whose presence this vessel was taken. The Admiral supposes that this capture must greatly distress the enemy.

We have received no direct news from Admiral Rodney, concerning his engagement on the 16th of January, with Don Juan de Longara; all that the Court has received and published is what Mr. Fitz Herbert has sent from Brussels, That the squadron under the command of Don Longara had an engagement, the circumstances of which were not yet known: That this squadron consisted of 11 ships of the line; of which 3, viz. the St. Gennaro, St. Justo, and the Monarche, were seperated from the fleet before the engagement. The St. Julian, St. Eugenio, St. Augustine, and St. Lorenzo, arrived at Cadiz much shattered. The St. Domingo blew up in the engagement. The Phœnix, the Princess and the Diligent were taken; the first of 80 guns, the other two of 70. These accounts, without satisfying our curiosity, increase our inquietudes, which will not be removed till we hear of the condition Admiral Rodney was in after the engagement; the obstinate defence made by the Spaniards must have greatly damaged some of our ships. It is a month since the engagement happened, and the particulars are so long in coming as to make us suspect that this triumph has cost us dear, or at least that Rodney is in no condition to go out of the bay of Gibralter, and this acquisition, as we now suppose it, may be a real disadvantage to us. While he has carried provisions to Gibralter, he has left our West-India Islands exposed, to which the French are gone with such a force as must render them really superior in those seas. Admiral Parker has amused himself there in pursuit of prizes; he has not attempted the retaking Grenada or St. Vincent; and after the arrival of Count de Guichen, we may perhaps lose Jamaica. We talk of reinforcing our fleet in the West-Indies, and there is certainly an indispensable necessity for this, as Rodney is not on his way thither, and it is quite uncertain when he will be able to sail to those coasts: and the French fleet being so much before him may put things in such a condition as may put it out of our power to regain a superiority.

BOSTON, May 18.

We have accounts from New-York, by an American who escaped from thence, that there has lately been a hot press in that city, of seamen to man their ships, and it was reported that numbers of Americans have been forced from the prison ships for that purpose.

We hear that the Hon. Arthur Lee, Esq; and———Izzard, of the State of South-Carolina, are expected soon to arrive in America.

We find by a late paper from Europe, that some account of the storm which overtook General Clinton and the troops that sailed with him last December from New-York, for Georgia, had reached England, and made no very agreeable impression on the ministerial party.

In a late debate in the House of Commons in England, Lord George Gordon remarked that in admitting Ireland to a participation of our trade, now that we were in a state of bankruptcy, was like the will of a humourous man, which ran thus: I owe much—I have nothing to pay,—the rest I leave to the poor.

Tuesday last being the annual meeting for the choice of Representatives for this town the ensuing year, the following Gentlemen were chosen, viz. Hon. Samuel Adams, Esq; Hon. John Hancock, Esq; Caleb Davis, Esq; Thomas Dawes, Esq; Mr. Thomas Walley, John Lowell, Esq; and Ezra Gray, Esq; Mr. Adams and Mr. Gray having excused themselves from serving, the choice of others in their room was referred to the adjournment, Tuesday next Ten o'Clock Forenoon.

Sunday last arrived a letter of marque brig, called the Phœnix, Capt. Hallet from Grenada, in 18 days, and brought in with him a prize ship of 6 carriage guns, from Port au Port, bound to New-York, laden with 200 pipes best red and

white wines, and 3 or 4 boxes lemmons, taken a few days ago.—Capt. Hallet informs, that the two grand fleets in the West-Indies consist of 21 sail of the line each, and that just before he sailed an action took place, in which the English had near 150 killed and wounded; but can give no further particulars.

Last Friday, was proved in this Town, at Fort-Hill, the Carriages of new Construction for 24, 36 and 48 pound Cannon: which Plan has been given by M. la Maire, Colonel of Dragoons, and tried by himself. There are great Advantages known to be derived from these Carriages of new Construction; for three Men can very easy move a Piece that would require ten Men to move on the old Construction, without being exposed to the Fire of the Enemy; and they can Fire the Guns that are mounted on these Carriages, at least four times as fast as the old ones; and can be as easily pointed at any Place as a Fusee, and as easily and quick turned round to Fire at any Part. The Honorable Council of this State have favoured the above Officer with their Presence at proving these Carriages; the Execution being conformable to what he has proposed by his Plan. The Honorable Council was pleated to approve much of the Plan, and have adopted that Construction.

We are authorized to assure the public, that Capt. la Touche, commander of His Most Christian Majesty's frigate the Hermoine, soon after his arrival, sent a letter to the Council of this State, of which the following is a translation, viz.

"SIR,

"IT being the intention of His Majesty the King of France, that his ships of war and frigates should upon all occasions promote the service of the United States, I am sure that I act in conformity to his pleasure in making to you Sir, the offer of going into the Bay with the frigate I command, in order to keep off, engage, or take, any English privateer or frigate that may come to interrupt the trade of this State. I shall accordingly have the honour to send every morning, an officer from on board my ship to the General Assembly, who shall have it in charge from me to receive your orders. I have thought there might be occasions in which my services might be useful to this State, while I am waiting for the instructions of his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of France. I cannot sufficiently express, Sir, how great my satisfaction will be in embracing such occasions, and in giving every proof of my attachment and entire devotion to the cause of America. I have the honour to be, &c.

"*The Hon. Jeremiah Powell, Esq; President of the Council of the State of Massachusetts.*"

To this letter the Council sent an answer in writing, expressing, in the strongest terms, the sense they had of this obliging offer of Capt. la Touche, and of the important service already rendered to these States by the navy of our illustrious Ally, His Most Christian Majesty; and at the same time, the satisfaction they derived from seeing the true spirit of the Alliance cultivated by such repeated instances of friendship and aid.

A person who arrived in town yesterday, five days from New-York, informs, that in consequence of the frequent draughts from the forces of that garrison, for the Southern expedition, the commander in chief had been obliged to call a great part of the militia from Long-Island to his support.

Last Sunday evening was committed to its parent earth, followed by a long train of sincere mourners and a very large assembly of respectable citizens, the remains of Dr. Daniel Scott, aged 36.

For THOMAS's MASSACHUSETTS SPY, *&c.*

Mr. THOMAS,

The following Bill (which I learn has since passed into a law by the Legislature of Virginia) for establishing religious Liberty, you are requested to publish in your Paper, as it may be a means of reflecting light upon this interesting subject. Z. Z.

A Bill for establishing religious freedom, printed for the consideration of the people.

WELL aware that the opinions and belief of men depend not on their own wills, but follow involuntarily the evidence proposed to their minds; that Almighty God has created the mind free, and manifested his supreme will, that free it shall remain by making it altogether unsusceptible of restraint: That all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens, or by civil incapacities, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the holy author of religion, who being Lord both of body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercions on either, as was in his Almighty power to do, but to extend it by its influence on reason alone: That the impious presumption of legislators and rulers, civil as well as ecclesiastical, who being themselves but fallible and uninspired men, have assumed dominion over the faith of others, setting up their own opinion and modes of thinking, as the only true and infallible, and as such endeavouring to impose them on others, hath established and maintained false religion, over the greatest part of the world and through all time: That to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions, which he disbelieves and abhors, is sinful and tyrannical: That even forcing him to support this or that teacher of his own religious persuasion is depriving him of the comfortable liberty of giving his contributions to the particular pastor, whose morals he would make his pattern, and whose powers he feels most persuasive to righteousness; and is withdrawing from the ministry those temporal rewards, which, proceeding from an approbation of their personal conduct, are an additional incitement to earnest and untiring labour for the instruction of mankind: That our civil rights have no dependance on our religious opinions, any more than our opinions in physicks or geometry. That therefore the prescribing any citizen as unworthy the public confidence, by laying upon him an incapacity of being called to offices of trust and emolument, unless he profess or renounce this or that religious opinion, is depriving him injuriously of those privileges and advantages, to which in common with his fellow citizens, he has a natural right: That it tends also to corrupt the principles of that very religion it is meant to encourage, by bribing with a monopoly of worldly honours and emoluments, those who will externally confess and conform to it: That though they indeed are criminal, who do not withstand the temptations, yet neither are those innocent who lay the bait in the way: That the opinions of men are not the object of civil government, nor under its jurisdiction: That to suffer the civil magistrate to intrude his power into the field of opinion, and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition of their ill tendency, is a dangerous fallacy which at once destroys all religious liberty, because he, being of course judge of that tendency, will make his own opinions the rule of judgment, and approve or condemn the sentiments of others, only as they shall square with or differ from his own: That it is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government, for its officers to interfere, when principles break out into overt acts against peace and good order: And finally, that truth is great and will prevail, if left to herself; that she is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unless, by human interposition, disarmed of her natural weapons, free arguments and debate; errors ceasing to be dangerous, when it is permitted freely to contradict them.

We the General Assembly of Virginia do enact, that no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained molested, or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief, but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain their opinion in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.

And though we well know that this Assembly, elected by the people for the ordinary purposes of Legislation only, have no power to restrain the acts of succeeding assemblies, constituted with powers equal with our own, and that therefore, to declare this act irrevocable would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare, and do declare, that the rights herein asserted are of the natural rights of mankind; and that if any act shall be hereafter passed to repeal the present, or to narrow its operations, such act will be an infringement of natural rights.

BLANK Powers of Attorney, to be sold at the Printing-Office.

From the MARTINICO GAZETTE, *March* 30, 1780.

List of the ships of war which are arrived at Fort Royal, under the command of the Count de Guichen, Lieutenant-General of the navy of his Christian Majesty, and Commandant of the Marine at Brest.

Ships.	Guns.	Captains.
White and Blue Squadron.		
Le Citoyen,	74	De Nieul,
Le Soverain,	74	De Glandevez,
Le Triumphant,	80	De Sades, C. D'Esc.
Le Solitaire,	64	Champion,
Le Triton,	64	De Boades,
White Squadron.		
Le Pluton,	74	La Marthonies,
Le Actionnaire,	64	L'Archantel,
La Couronne,	80	De Guichen, Comm.
La Victoire,	64	D'Albert,
Le St. Michael,	64	De Mars.
Blue Squadron.		
L'Indien,	64	Balleroy,
L'Hercule,	74	D'Amblimont,
Le Caton,	64	Flamond,
Le Palmier,	74	Monteil, C. D'Esc.
Le Dauphin,	74	Coimpy,
L'Intrepide,	74	Duplaffis.
Frigates.		
La Courageuse,	36	La Rigaudiere
La Mades,	36	Kengarier,
La Gentile,	36	De Villebrune.

The five regiments which were on board the ships and transports of this fleet, are those of Towrain, Enghien, Walch Royal Comtois and Poiton. They arrived in very good condition and great spirits.

Since the arrival of C. de Guichen's squadron at Fort Royal, the Marquis de Bouille has made every necessary disposition for operating without the loss of a moment. The Captains of the transports were ordered to hold themselves in constant readiness. No precaution which could contribute to the success of the enterprize was neglected. The 25th the Marquis de Bouille having embarked on board the Robuste, our fleet commanded by the C. de Guichen, amounting to 23 ships of the line, besides frigates, weighed, calms having prevented our fleet from gaining the proper station, and by falling to leeward they missed intercepting 26 English transports, which got then into the harbour. This reinforcement of the English it is thought makes them 6000 strong, who appear to have been intended for an expedition against Grenada and St. Vincent. Thus their great preparations, with which they threatened to conquer all before them, are rendered useless, and they are blocked up at St. Lucia by a superiour fleet, and the disadvantages of their situation are evident. Last Tuesday our fleet returned to Fort Royal to land the sick, &c. A brig from Cork came to an anchor at Grenada, foolishly relying on the accounts published in the English Ministerial papers, that the British troops had re-taken that island.

This day published, price 30*s.*

And to be sold at the Printing-Office in Worcester,

THE Life, Last Words, Dying Speech, and Confession of BARNETT DAVENPORT, who was executed at Litchfield, in Connecticut, May 8th, 1780, for committing

Five Horrid Murders,

And robbing the House, and afterwards setting it on fire, where the Murders were committed.

The whole thought to be the most barbarous acts ever committed by one person in this or any other country.

JOSHUA THOMAS, informs those of his Customers, who were to pay him for News-Papers in Continental Currency, but have neglected to do it, that after this week they must make good the depreciation of the money; the price of News-Papers at the Printing Office being now equal to what he asked for the papers with the postage included.

Lancaster, May 18th, 1780.

WHEREAS my wife BEULAH, has behaved in the most indecent and unbecoming manner—disposed of my property, and cohabited with other men, in my absence. This is therefore to request all persons not to trust her on my account, as I shall hereafter pay no debts of her contracting. ELEAZER COLLER.

Rutland, May 10. 1780.

For THOMAS's MASSACHUSETTS SPY, &c.

Mr. THOMAS,

EVERY new and unusual appearance in nature is apt at first to create in us wonder and surprize, let the cause be what it will.—The strange and uncommon phenomenon which happened last Friday, and the subsequent night, had that effect.

The morning of the day was overcast with clouds, and rainy; before 9 o'clock the rain, in a great measure, ceased, the clouds appeared more agitated, and the air began to darken.—For several hours in the middle of the day, the obscurity was so great, that those who had good eyesight, could scarcely see to read common print; the birds and fowls, in many places, retired to their roosts, as though it had been actually night, and people were obliged to light candles to dine by.—It was the judgment of many that at about 12 o'clock, (the time of the greatest obscurity) the day light was not greater, if so great, as that of bright moon-light, which by calculation has been found to be 90,000 times less than that of a clear sun-shiny day;—during the whole time, a sickly, melancholly gloom overcast the face of nature:——Nor was the darkness of the night less uncommon and terrifying, than that of the day; notwithstanding there was almost a full moon, no object was discernable, but by the help of some artificial light, which, when seen from the neighbouring, houses and other places at a distance, appeared through a kind of Egyptian darkness, which seemed almost impervious to the rays.

This unusual phænomenon excited the fears and apprehensions of many people. Some considered it as a portentous omen of the wrath of Heaven in vengeance denounced against the land, others as the immediate harbinger of the last day, "*when the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.*" But I conceive that this may be accounted for from natural causes, without derogating from the wisdom and justice of *him*, who made and disposed the various parts of the universe, and has given to it general, uniform and simple laws, which if they produce various effects and shew different appearances, it is from different circumstances and situations only. Yet what the natural causes were which produced this uncommon appearance may be a question which well deserves a philosophical inquiry, which perhaps might afford to those who indulge themselves in the abstruse and curious researches of natural causes, a large field for philosophical speculation.

Without entering into a particular, minute, and philosophical explanation of the physical cause of light, its properties, and the laws of refraction and reflection of its rays, in different mediums, I shall consider in general, what might be the direct and immediate cause of so great an obstruction of it, last Friday.—It will easily be conceived that the sensation of light is in proportion to the density, or quantity of rays emitted from the luminous body, which fall on the eye of the beholder, whether those rays come immediately from the luminous body itself, or mediately by reflection: And as the sun is the great and original source of light to the inhabitants of this globe, whatever cause most obstructs and prevents his rays from coming to us, involves us in the greatest darkness (which is only a privation of light). It will also readily be granted, that if it was not for the reflection of the sun's rays from the atmosphere and other surrounding objects, every obstruction that prevented the sun's rays from falling directly upon us, would involve us in total darkness. Now I take the direct and immediate cause of the obstruction of light, at that time, to be vast quantities of elastick, heterogeneous vapours, generated in consequence of the great body of snow which covered the earth so long the winter past, and exhaled during the warm dry weather, immediately preceding this time, which then had congested and condensed into thick clouds, which extended through the atmosphere for a vast distance: And when we consider that these clouds were formed of very heterogeneous particles of different densities and specifick gravities, we must suppose they formed different bodies or *strata* of clouds, and some of the more gross must be suspended at not a great distance from the earth, especially as the atmosphere was then greatly rarefied; consequently the rays of light must suffer so many reflections and refractions in passing them, that but very few could possibly be transmitted, and those that were, would be the least reflexible and refrangible, which are those of the red, yellow, orange and green colours; which may account for the sickly gloom in which objects then appeared. The vast extent of the clouds and their nearness to the earth prevented our receiving much advantage from the reflection of any part of the atmosphere, which was not then clouded. And the same cause that produced this effect in the day time, would make the night proportionably dark.

These are only some general hints, suggested in an inaccurate and loose manner, which I hope to see taken up by some more able judges of natural causes.

NEW-LONDON, May 19.

Saturday last was brought into port by the Young-Cromwell, Hawk, and Sally Privateers, the ship Jenny, Capt. Hambleton, from Whitby in England, bound to New-York, burthen about 400 tons, and laden with coal, cordage and duck.

Same day arrived a flag of truce from New-York, with 110 Americans, sent from the prison ships there, for exchange.

A gentleman who came in the above flag informs, that three days before they sailed from New-York, a frigate arrived there from England with dispatches, but the contents had not transpired; that she tarried only 24 hours, and then sailed for Carolina.

We learn from New-York, that they are under so much fear of a visit from our allies, that they have laden 20 large ships with stone, ready to sink in the channel way at Sandy-Hook, on the shortest notice of a fleet appearing to attack them.

By a gentleman from Bermuda, we learn that an epidemical sickness brought there by British invalid soldiers from Georgia, has raged to so great a degree in that island as that 740 of the inhabitants have died within the last three months.

Yesterday Capt. Rossiter arrived here in a sloop in 19 days from Goudaloupe. He informs, that when he left the Mole, which was the 28th April, accounts were, that there had been two actions between the French and British Fleets each consisting of 21 or 22 sail; the first was off Dominica on Sunday towards evening, 14 days before he sailed; and the second near St. Kitts on the Thursday following, but that no ships were lost on either side.

Capt. Rossiter also informs, and letters which he brought confirm the melancholly accounts of Point Peter being burnt the 28th of March, and that Roseau in Dominica was burnt about the same time.

The fleet which Capt. Wattles spoke with as mentioned in our last, appears to be a fleet of Merchantmen bound from the West-Indies to Old France.

WORCESTER, May 25.

The names of the Gentlemen who by an act of the General Assembly of this State, at their present session, are formed into, constituted, and made a body politic and corporate, by the name of the AMERICAN ACADEMY of ARTS and SCIENCES, are as follows, viz.

Hon. Samuel Adams, Esq; Hon. John Adams, Esq; John Bacon, Esq; Hon. James Bowdoin, Esq; Rev. Charles Chauncy, D. D. Rev. John Clark, David Cobb, Esq; Rev. Samuel Cooper, D. D. Hon. Tho. Cushing, Esq; Hon. Nathan Cushing, Esq; Hon. Wm. Cushing, Esq; Tristram Dalton, Esq; Hon. Francis Dana, Esq; Rev. Samuel Deane, Rev. Percz Fobes, Rev. Caleb Gannet, Hon. Henry Gardner, Esq; Mr. Benjamin Guild, Hon. John Hancock, Esq; Hon. Joseph Hawley, Esq; Edward Augustus Holyoke, Esq; Doctor Ebenezer Hunt, Jonathan Jackson, Esq; Doctor Charles Jarvis, Rev. Samuel Langdon, D. D. Hon. Levi Lincoln, Esq; Rev. Daniel Little, Rev. Elijah Lothrop, John Lowell, Esq; Rev. Samuel Mather, D. D. Samuel Mpody, Esq; Hon. Andrew Oliver, Esq; Doctor Joseph Orne, Doctor Theodore Parsons, Hon. George Partridge, Esq; Hon. Robert Treat Paine, Esq; Rev. Phillips Payson, Samuel Phillips jun. Esq; Hon. John Pickering, Esq; Hon. Oliver Prescot, Esq; Rev. Zedekiah Sanger, Hon. Nathaniel Peaslee Sergeant, Esq; Micajah Sawyer, Esq; Theodore Sedgwick, Esq; Hon William Sever, Esq; Stephen Sewall, Esq; Hon. David Sewall, Esq; John Sprague, Esq; Ebenezer Storer, Esq; Caleb Strong, Esq; Hon. James Sullivan, Esq; Doctor John Bernard Sweat, Mr. Nathaniel Tracy, Cotton Tufts, Esq; Hon. James Warren, Esq; Rev. Samuel Weit, Rev. Edward Wigglesworth, Rev. Joseph Willard, Rev. Samuel Williams, Rev. Abraham Williams, Rev. Nehemiah Williams, and Mr. James Winthrop.

They are to meet at the Philosophy Chamber in the University at Cambridge on Tuesday next.

Extract of a letter from an officer in Charlestown South-Carolina, to his friend in this town.

"Friday, March, 17, 1780.

"General Clinton now possesses John's and James Islands, and six or seven miles of the Continent upon Ashley River. Contrary to my most sanguine expectations, he has given us time to throw up many formidable works. Although our army is small we feel very secure from assault. By regular approaches, I suppose we might be carried, but, ere that, our reinforcements will arrive and oblige him to raise the siege.

"Monday, March 20, 9 o'clock, P. M.

"This morning's tide brought over our bar into Five-Fathom-Hole, eight British men of war, and this evening's to our astonishment a ship of the line and another frigate. I say to our astonishment, because it was represented by the pilots and every person, who knew the bar, as impossible to lighten a ship of the line enough to get her over the banks. But over she is and safely anchored. There are now in Five Fathom Hole, one 64, one 50, one 44, five frigates, two twenty gun ships, a galley and several small armed vessels.

"Wednesday morning, 22d March.

"This force being so far superior to what we expected the enemy would bring in, and it being apparent, that Admiral Arbuthnot could with a flood tide and leading wind pass the fort and our ships, and anchor to the leeward of them; and so getting our ships between him and the fort could take them with ease (for they could not fall down to the other side of the garrison against wind and tide) our ships left their station at Sullivan's Island the last evening, and retired into the mouth of Cooper River, which measures are taking to block up, and thereby prevent the enemy from entering it, and entirely cutting off our communication with the country. We expect Clinton before our lines in two or three days and the ships before the town. Matters begin to look serious I assure you. But I have not an idea of their dispossessing us of our ground. I believe they will make this town pretty warm; but if we can hold the spot although, they knock down the whole city about our ears their purpose will not be answered. Another frigate came in last night."

Late Intelligence from South-Carolina.

Yesterday morning we received the following, printed in a handbill at Providence.

From the NEWPORT MERCURY of May 20, 1780.

Last night arrived here, Capt. Reuben Hamlin, in the Sloop Venus, in 20 days from Wilmington, North Carolina, with whom came passenger a gentleman belonging to this town, who informs that he saw an officer at Wilmington, who *left* Charlestown the 24th of April, going express to Virginia, with an account that the enemy on the 22d of April, made an attack on the town, when they were repulsed, with the loss of 12 killed, and 15 taken prisoners; that we lost a Capt. Moultrie, one other officer and several privates: That on the 23d they made a more furious attack, but were repulsed and pursued some small distance, leaving 800 dead on the ground besides a number of dead supposed to have been carried off with the wounded: That General Lincoln had 6000 well disciplined troops in Charlestown, in high spirits and well supplied; so that it was not doubted the enemy would soon be expelled South-Carolina, especially as a draft was ordered for every third man in South and North-Carolina.

Capt. Hamlin, who left Georgetown, in South-Carolina, the 22th of April, confirms the above intelligence, and adds, that Gen. Scott, with some Continental troops, was between Georgetown, and Charlestown, collecting a large body of militia (who flocked in from all quarters) in order to make a grand push on the enemy's rear, at which time it is supposed General Lincoln from within will sally out upon their front.

Upon proper encouragement, there will soon be published, a piece entitled

REMARKS upon some things hard to be understood, as they were delivered in two ORATIONS by the Rev. ISAAC FOSTER, A. M. at New-Braintree and New-Salem at the Ordinations of his son and nephew.

By ROBERT ABERCROMBIE A. M.

While Liberty displays her comely charms,
And calls her sons to take the field in arms;
Drive abject slaves and minions from her land
And make their despots stoop to her command;
This *hardy Priest* tries to reform the nation,
Teaches an *easy* method of salvation;
How Heaven's free subjects may their rights dispute,
Left God himself should seem too absolute.

N. B. Subscriptions will be taken in by the Ministers respectively belonging at HARDWICK, BARRE, RUTLAND, BROOKFIELD, SPENCER, and by Capt. STONE of OAKHAM.

STRAYED or drove away from me the subscriber, about the 1st of May, two three year old HEIFERS, one red, some white on the back and head, with short curved horns, and a part of one horn broke off; the other a clear red, the hoof on one hind foot longer than common, and turns up. Whoever will take up said Heifers and convey them to me, or give intelligence where they may be found, shall be intitled to 60 Dollars reward, and all necessary charges paid by ELIJAH DIX.

Worcester, May 25, 1780.

By the major part of the Council of the State of Massachusetts Bay.

A PROCLAMATION,

For Proroguing the Great and General Court or Assembly.

WHEREAS the Great and General Court or Assembly of the State of Massachusetts-Bay, *stands Prorogued unto* Wednesday *the 17th day of* May *instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon: And there being nothing at present for the service of this State, which requires their meeting at that time,*

Therefore we have thought fit further to prorogue the said Court or Assembly: And the same is accordingly prorogued unto *Tuesday* the 30th day of *May*, inst. at ten o'clock, in the forenoon, then to meet at the State-House in *Boston*, whereof all the members of the said Court, and all others concerned, are required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, *this 12th day of* May *in the Year of our LORD, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, and the fourth year of the independence of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.*

In the name and behalf of the COUNCIL,

JEREMIAH POWELL, President.

PHILADELPHIA, April 19.

We hear that Congress passed the following Resolve Yesterday.

Resolved, that Congress will as soon as may be, make such provision for discharging or continuing the Loans that have been made to these United States on Loan-Office Certificates, as that the holders of them shall sustain no loss thereon by any depreciation of the Bills loaned subsequent to the respective dates of said Certificates.

MORRISTOWN, Head-Quarters, April 28.

On the 19th of this month the Chevalier de la Luzerne, Minister of his Most Christian Majesty, M. de Marbois, and M. de Mirales a Spanish gentleman of distinguished character, arrived at head-quarters in company with Gen. Washington, and were received under the discharge of Cannon. The next morning, and some following days, they took a near view of the posts of the enemy, and examined particularly their position at Staten Island. They were entertained by the Commander in Chief, and the other Generals of the army, and visited the different quarters. On the 24th a considerable division of the army exhibited a number of military manœuvres, and various evolutions; the dispositions for which were made by the Baron de Stuben, under the direction of the Commander in Chief: The Minister of France could not forbear to express his admiration at the precision of their movements, and the exactness of their fires, which were performed before a large concourse of people of all orders. The Governor of the Jerseys and all the Generals were present upon the occasion, with a number of other persons of the first consideration. Every body remarked the good disposition of the army, the spirit that pervaded it, and the alacrity with which the military of every rank appeared to offer themselves for the defence of the honourable and glorious cause they had espoused. The Minister of France quitted head-quarters the 25th, and in company with General Washington, visited the different quarters where the troops were barracked; they found them in the best order, as well as the corps of Artillery, which were exercised in their presence.

The general satisfaction that reigned upon this occasion, was unhappily interrupted by the loss of M. de Mirales who died in the General's house on the 28th, after a short illness: He is universally regretted, and was interred with the honours due to his character.

FISH-KILL, May 11.

A few days since, Col. Millen, who commands on the lines, receiving information that a party of the enemy were marauding in the neighbourhood of Singsing, ordered a detachment, under the command of Capt. Cushing of the 1st Massachusetts battalion, to intercept them. The enemy having retired before the arrival of our party, Captain Cushing followed them down, and about two o'clock in the morning took possession of the quarters of Col. Delancey, where he captivated and brought off three commissioned officers and seventeen privates;—Col. Delancey had gone out in the evening with an intention to return in an hour or two; but a violent rain detained him all night, by which he escaped falling into our hands. This was a spirited, well conducted little affair; executed not above three hundred yards from, and below their works, No. 8, which was garrisoned. The enemy overtook our party upon their return, with a body of horse, and skirmished with them for about six miles, frequently attempting to charge the detachment; but the good disposition made by Capt. Cushing, and the spirited behaviour of the officers and men of his party, rendered every effort of theirs ineffectual. It is thought the enemy must have lost some men. The officers and men taken were sent up to Major-General Howe, who permitted the former to return immediately upon parole, and sent the latter to a place of security.——The enemy's officers speak with great applause of the conduct of Capt. Cushing and his officers, and of the behaviour of his men; and express, in strong terms, the sense they have of the good treatment they received. This affair does Capt. Cushing, and the party under his command, great credit.—General Howe, in giving the captive officers their parole, deserves applause;—this conduct is humane, wise, and political,—sets a laudable example to our enemies, mitigates the horrors of war, while it displays the gentleman and man of sense.

NORWICH, May 4.

We have several accounts from the southward, the latest to about the 20th ult. then affairs were in a promising situation. Gen. Lincoln was fifteen or twenty thousand strong, all in high spirits, and under no apprehensions as to the issue.

It is the opinion held by the political connisseurs, that should the enemy gain possession of Charlestown, it will be the means of protracting the war; if not, it will come to a speedy close.

From the most authentic accounts that we can procure, a fleet has been during the winter past, collecting in the West-Indies from France and Spain, for the purpose of scouring the coast of British pirates from Georgia to Nova-Scotia: (Very probable they have arrived at Georgia before now.)

PROVIDENCE, May 6.

Wednesday last being the Anniversary Election of supreme Magistrates, and other officers, for the government of this State, the following gentlemen were elected to the office prefixed to their names, viz.

His Excellency William Green, Esq; Governor.

The Honorable William West, Esq; Deputy Governor.

BOSTON, May 18.

Accounts from the West-Indies positively declare, that 2000 of the troops which embarked at New-York with Gen. Clinton, had been blown off those seas and were arrived at St. Lucia.

We learn from Providence, that a ship from Jamaica, with 300 hogsheads of rum, taken by the ship Mifflin, Capt. Babcock, is arrived at Newport.

Extract of a letter from Ireland, dated Feb. 7, 1780.

"The English ministry seem determined to conquer North-America, if they beggar the nation. They talk of sending out 10,000 fresh troops in the spring, but they chiefly depend on divisions to happen among the Americans. Many ministerial pamphlets are published to shew the immense value and importance of North-America to Britain, and how absolutely necessary the reduction thereof is to her very existence. This present year will cost 32 millions, and increase the national debt to 200 millions."

Prepared for the Press, and ready to be published,

A VINDICATION of a late PARAPHRASE upon Rom. X, 4. with Observations on Rev. Mr. FOSTER's reply; and an Answer to his Ordination Sermon at New-Salem, on Universal Redemption: In a Letter to said Foster.

By JOSEPH BUCKMINSTER,

Author of said Paraphrase. As this piece will contain one hundred pages, the price will be about 14 Dollars.

The AUTHOR'S ADVERTISEMENT.

As not only I myself am greatly misrepresented, and held up in a very disagreeable view in said Reply, but the most precious truths of God's word and the gospel in general is shamefully perverted in each of this Gentleman's publications; all of which, I trust I have in a measure vindicated in this piece; I cannot but desire gentlemen and other christian friends to favour me with their Subscriptions. My fathers and brethren in the Ministry, who are most of them opposed to this Gentleman, will afford their assistance, be at the trouble of conveying Subscriptions to Mr. THOMAS the Printer at Worcester.

I am your's and the publick's servant,

J. BUCKMINSTER.

Rutland, May 15, 1780.

The following BOOKS,

Are to be sold by I. THOMAS, *at his Printing-Office,* In WORCESTER,

An Argument in the case of James Sommersett, a Negro, lately determined by the Court of King's Bench: Wherein it is attempted to demonstrate the present unlawfulness of domestic slavery. To which is prefixed, a State of the Case. By Mr. HARGRAVE, one of the counsel for the Negro.

A Sermon on Natural Religion. By a Natural Man.

Eshcol: a Cluster of the Fruit of Canaan brought to the borders, for the encouragement of the Saints travelling thitherward, with their faces toward Sion. Or, Rules of Direction for the walking of the Saints in Fellowship, according to the Order of the Gospel. By JOHN OWEN, D.D.

God dwelling in the tents of Shem: Or Believers Baptism vindicated. Containing remarks on a discourse of the Rev. Mr. Fish, of Upton. By B. FOSTER, A. B.

A Word of Counsel and Warning to all those who are Rejecters of the Word of God preached.

A brief Paraphrase upon Romans x, 4. With an Answer to the Rev. Mr. Foster's Sermon at the Ordination of his son at New-Braintree. By J. BUCKMINSTER, M.A.

A Letter to the Rev. Mr. Buckminster, being a Reply to his Paraphrase upon Rom. x. 4. &c. By ISAAC FOSTER, M. A. of Stafford.

Also, a few Almanacks for 1780.

CASH given for

Linen and Cotton and Linen

R A G S,

At the Printing-Office.

IT is earnestly requested that the fair Daughters of Liberty in this extensive County would not neglect to serve their country, by saving for the Paper-Mill all Linen and Cotton and Linen Rags, be they ever so small, as they are equally good for the purpose of making paper, as those that are larger. A bag hung up in one corner of a room, would be the means of saving many which would be otherwise lost. If the Ladies should not make a fortune by this piece of oeconomy they will at least have the satisfaction of knowing they are doing an essential service to the community, which with SIX SHILLINGS per pound, the price now given for clean white rags, they must be sensible will be a sufficient reward.

ISAIAH THOMAS.

RAN away from me the subscriber on the 18th of April last, SALMA KEYES, a servant of mine in his 18th year, of a fresh complexion, black hair, blue eyes, about five feet and an half high, had on when he went away, a wrapper, with a black cape, the coat of a greyish colour, jacket of a dark colour, brown coat and breeches, grey stockings, stripped woolen shirt. Whoever will take said servant and convey him to me, shall have two Dollars reward. And all persons are cautioned against entertaining said servant, as they must answer it in the law.

ELISHA JACKSON.

Westminster, May 5, 1780.

To be SOLD,

At public Vendue, on Monday the 5th day of June next, at one o'clock, P. M. at the house of Mr. SETH SNOW, innholder in Paxton,

ABOUT twenty acres of good Wood Land, lying in Holden, about half a mile from the Meeting-House.

LORING LINCOLN.

Brookfield, May 18, 1780.

WANTED, as an Apprentice to the Printing business, a smart, active lad, about 14 years of age, who can read well, and write a good hand. Enquire at the Printing-Office in Worcester.

**** Those persons who take this paper and engaged to pay me in Rye, Indian-Corn, Butter, Cheese, Sheep's Wool, Wood, &c. are requested to make payment, as I am in want of these articles.*

ISAIAH THOMAS.

**** Those gentlemen who have subscribed for "The* HISTORY *of the present* WAR, *in* AMERICA," *are desired to call or send for the Second Number.*

BLANK Writs and Summonses, for Justices of the Peace; and blank DEEDS, to be sold at the Printing-Office.